



U.S. Department of Justice

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PRESS RELEASE

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District of Columbia Resident Sentenced to 14½ Years in Prison in Connection With Burglary and Assault Convictions

Washington, D.C. — Johnnie Gamble, 22, of Washington, D.C., was sentenced to 14½ of incarceration on October 16, 2009, for the February 26, 2009, armed assault of a family in their home, announced Acting U.S. Attorney Channing D. Phillips. A Superior Court jury found Gamble guilty of First Degree Burglary while Armed, three counts of Assault with a Dangerous Weapon (Gun), and numerous firearms-related offenses on August 5, 2009. The Honorable Judge Ronna Beck presided over both the trial and the sentencing.

According to evidence presented at trial, on February 26, 2009, a woman was having a get-together at her apartment located in the 800 block of Barnaby Street, SE, Washington, D.C., when a guest of hers got into a physical altercation with her husband. After the fight was broken up, the guest made threats to the woman's husband and stormed out of the house. Once outside, he phoned Gamble and told Gamble that he had been jumped and needed help. Shortly after that call, at approximately 10:00 p.m., Gamble met the guest outside the Crew's apartment, spoke with the guest briefly, and then went into the woman and her husband's apartment armed with a black, semiautomatic handgun. Gamble went directly to the back bedroom, where the victims and some friends were watching television. Gamble pointed his gun at the family and their three-year-old daughter, and told the husband to come outside and finish the fight with the guest. Gamble then walked out the front door of the apartment and the woman closed and locked the door, and called 911. While she was on the phone with the 911 dispatcher, Gamble fired two bullets through the front door, one of which went through the wall of the minor child's bedroom.

In announcing the sentence, Acting U.S. Attorney Phillips expressed his appreciation to the Metropolitan Police Department, and particularly praised the work of Seventh District Investigators Joseph Della-Camera and Gregory Pemberton, and Intelligence Branch Officers Todd Perkins and Derek Phillip. He also commended the work of Paralegal Richard Cheatham for helping to prepare the case for trial, and Kim Herd, Michael Hailey, Debra Cannon and M. LaVerne Forrest of the Victim Witness Assistance Unit for their service to the victims. Finally, Acting U.S. Attorney Phillips commended Assistant U.S. Attorney Michael Ortwein who

investigated and prosecuted the case.

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